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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT 2000

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E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PINS, PNAT, PTER, FR

REF: MARSEILLE 0566

1. AT THE CONCLUSION OF TWO WEEKS OF TRIAL, A LYON COURT ON JULY 26 HANDED OUT UNEXPECTEDLY LIGHT SENTENCES TO FIVE ADMITTED MEMBERS OF THE OUTLAWED CORSICAN SEPARATIST GROUP FLNC (FRONT DE LIBERATION NATIONAL DE LA CORSE) CONVICTED OF BREAKING INTO A CORSICAN PRISON AND KILLING TWO INMATES IN JUNE 1984. SENTENCES RANGED FROM EIGHT YEARS IN PRISON FOR THE THREE CONFESSED MURDERERS TO THREE AND A HALF YEARS FOR TWO ACCOMPLICES. THE MURDERED PRISON INMATES HAD BEEN SERVING TIME FOR THE 1983 KILLING OF A YOUNG FLNC MEMBER.
2. ASKING THAT THE JURY TAKE INTO ACCOUNT CERTAIN SPECIAL CORSICAN SOCIAL/POLITICAL REALITIES, THE NINE DEFENSE LAWYERS EMPLOYED SOME UNUSUAL LINES OF ARGUMENT, VARIOUSLY CALLING THE COMMANDO RAID AND MURDERS A CORSICAN AFFAIR OF HONOR, A POLITICAL VENDETTA WITHIN THE CORSICAN NATIONALIST FAMILY AND A CRIME OF PASSION COMMITTED BY PURE AND HONEST MEN WANTING ONLY JUST RETRIBUTION FOR A FALLEN COMRADE. ONE ATTORNEY ASKED RHETORICALLY "WHAT IS THE COMMON MEA-

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SURE BETWEEN KLAUS BARBIE (SOON ALSO TO BE TRIED IN LYON)...A PLUNDERER AND KILLER OF CHILDREN, THE ARMENIAN TERRORISTS OF ORLY, AND THESE SIMPLE MEN WHO HAVE AVENGED A BROTHER?"

3. COMMENT: THOUGH THE PROCEEDINGS WERE HELD AT A NEUTRAL SITE (LYON) WITH A DISINTERESTED, IMPARTIAL JURY, THE VERDICT HAS POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE FOR CORSICA. THE PROSECUTION HAD BEEN ASKING FOR LIFE SENTENCES FOR THE KILLERS AND ATTORNEYS CLOSE TO THE FLNC HAD ONLY BEEN HOPING FOR PRISON TERMS OF LESS THAN TEN YEARS. THE RELATIVE LENIENCY SHOWN BY THE LYON COURT APPEARS TO HAVE SATISFIED CORSICAN NATIONALISTS AND SEEMINGLY ASSURES THAT THE FLNC BOMBING TRUCE ANNOUNCED JULY 1 (REFTEL) WILL STAY IN EFFECT. THE TROUBLED CORSICAN TOURIST INDUSTRY MUST HAVE BREATHED A COLLECTIVE SIGH OF RELIEF AS A RESULT OF LAST FRIDAY'S VERDICT. VANGILDER

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TEXT

SECSTATE FOR PA/PRS AND EUR/WE - PARIS FOR USIS

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: FR, PGOV, SHUM (BARBIE KLAUS)

SUBJECT: LYON PREPARES FOR THE BARBIE TRIAL

- 1. LYON IS GEARING UP FOR THE TRIAL OF NAZI WAR CRIMINAL, KLAUS BARBIE. THE TRIAL, WHICH IS NOW PLANNED TO START IN EARLY NOVEMBER, IS EXPECTED TO LAST BETWEEN SIX AND EIGHT WEEKS. THE CHIEF PROSE-CUTORS OFFICE IS NARROWING DOWN THE CHOICES OF WHERE THE TRIAL WILL BE HELD WITH THE MAJOR PROBLEMS BEING SECURITY AND THE ACCOMODATION OF THE LARGE NUMBER OF JOURNALISTS AND GENERAL PUBLIC EXPECTED TO ATTEND.
- 2. AUTHORITIES HAVE STATED THAT JOURNALISTS WISHING TO COVER THE TRIAL MUST SUBMIT THEIR REQUESTS FOR ACCREDITATION TO THE PROCURER GENERAL IN LYON NO LATER THAN AUGUST 25, 1985. WITH SOME 500 TO 700 JOURNALISTS EXPECTED TO COVER THE TRIAL, POST RECOMMENDS ADDRESSEES ALERT CONTACTS AND ADVISE THEM TO BOTH SUBMIT ACCREDI-TATION REQUESTS AND MAKE THEIR HOTEL RESERVATIONS NOW.

3. POST WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR AND REPORT PRE-TRIAL DEVELOPMENTS. VALERGA

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